6th Grade Summer Reading

Dear Peperzak Pumas,

We are looking forward to a great 6th grade year with you at Carla Olman Peperzak Middle School. Our namesake, Mrs. Carla Olman Peperzak, was selfless in her commitment to others. Her bravery, determination and willingness to be an upstander inspires our school motto, "All day, every day, becoming your best self." This summer we would like you to reflect on what it means to become your best self. Your summer reading assignment will center around reading about a person who embodies what it means to become your best self.

This is not a required assignment; however, we are committed to helping you become your best self. That commitment begins before you ever walk through the front doors. Throughout your summer, it is important to keep your mind engaged in learning. You may ask, "How does reading help me become my best self?" Did you know that students who read during the summer gain an average of 1 month of reading proficiency? Students who don't read lose an average of 2-3 months of reading proficiency over time, those lost months add up to years (Scholastic 2022). Students who read a book and complete a one-pager will be part of a celebration for summer reading at the end of September.

Summer Reading Project

Where do I start?

1. Choose a person, living or deceased, who embodies what it means to become your best self.
    a. You can choose a widely recognized individual like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Malala Yousafzai, Kobe Bryant, Temple Grandin, Simon Biles, Marie Curie, Jim Thorpe, Lionel Messi or Amelia Earhart to name a few. You can also choose people more locally recognized like Carl Maxey, Carla Peperzak, John Stockton, Mandi Price, or Sherman Alexie.
    b. You may choose someone not mentioned on this list. This is meant to get you thinking about some possibilities.
2. Read an autobiography about this person (non-fiction) **OR** a fictional story about this person's life.
3. Complete a ***One-Pager Assignment*** about this person. The directions for the *One-Pager Assignment* are attached to this packet.
4. ***You will turn this assignment into your ELA teacher by September 24th.***

Optional Extension – Greek and Latin Roots

Why do we study roots?

At each grade level, students are encouraged to study Greek and Latin roots because they are the building blocks of many English words. Learning roots helps students become stronger readers, writers, and thinkers. When students recognize a root, they can often figure out the meaning of unfamiliar words without needing to look them up. This skill supports reading comprehension in all subjects, including English, science, social studies, and math.

The goal is not just memorization but helping build word-solving strategies you can use for years to come. Students are encouraged to practice roots regularly in short, consistent ways. You will find a list of 100 Greek and Latin roots for 6th graders to familiarize themselves with.

One-Pager: Summer Reading Project

Upon finishing your independent summer reading, you will complete a *One-Pager* to demonstrate your understanding of your reading. O*ne-pagers* are a way of responding to reading on one piece of paper.

Expectations:

- Use one side of a standard sized, unlined paper (8 ½ x 11).
- Use colored pens or markers, unless black and white is the BEST design choice.
- Write your first and last name on the back.
- Fill the entire page, very little white space left showing.
- Be creative and thoughtful. It is meant to be a challenge to truly represent your experience of your reading in such a small space.

Directions:

Arrange the following required elements on the page in any way you choose:

☐Title, author, and genre of the book.

☐Write a one-paragraph explanation of why you chose this person and what they are well known for.

☐Name(s) and brief description(s) of the main character(s) in your book. If you read a biography, include the names and brief descriptions of significant people in your person's life.

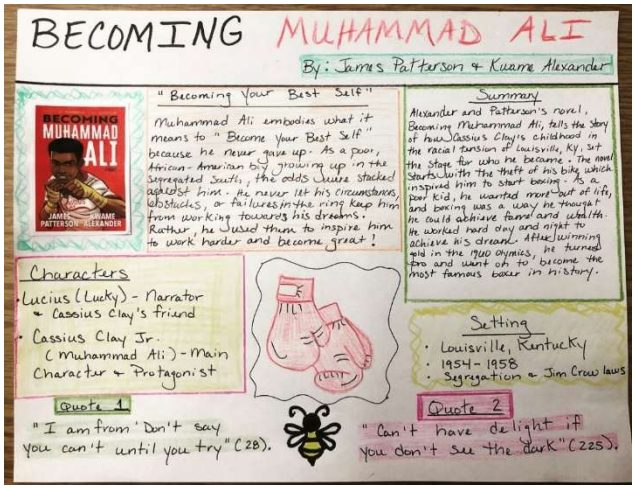
☐Describe or draw the setting (time and place).

☐Include three significant excerpts from the book – quotes or passages that are important to the story or to the person's life/legacy. Include the page number (citation) where each quote is found.

☐Have at least three graphic representations: a drawing, magazine picture, or computer graphic that relates to the book you read or the quotes you chose. One graphic should be of the person you read about, it can be printed or drawn.

☐Include a one-paragraph explanation of how this person embodies what it means to "become your best self".

Student Sample



6th Grade Roots

Quarter One	Quarter Two	Quarter Three	Quarter Four
ante (before)	archy (government)	homo (same)	morph (shape)
anti (against)	ard (always)	spec (look)	vest (clothes)
bi (two)	cide (kill)	duct (lead)	bene (good)
circum (around)	ician (specialist)	fer (carry)	pond (weight)
com (together)	itis (infection)	pend (hang)	corp (body)
con (together)	aqua (water)	micro (small)	dorm (sleep)
de (down)	audi (hear)	hydro (water)	pater (father)
dis (away)	bell (war)	photo (light)	nov (new)
equi (equal)	cap (take)	pan (all)	punct (point)
extra (beyond)	cise (cut)	penta (five)	ject (throw)
inter (between)	bio (life)	tele (far)	tion (act or state)
intra (within)	auto (self)	vid (look)	loco (place)
intro (into)	port (carry)	omni (all)	dox (opinion)
mal (bad)	scrib (write)	ex (out)	amphi (both)
mis (bad)	logy (science)	poly (many)	magn (great)
non (not)	dict (say)	re (again)	eu (good)
post (after)	cred (believe)	hypo (under)	endo (within)
pre (before)	cent (one hundred)	pseudo (false)	phobia (fear)
semi (half)	neo (new)	neuro (nerve)	ortho (straight)
sub (under)	ad (to)	tomy (cut)	put (think)
super (over)	cede (go)	hema (blood)	ver (true)
syn (together)	miss (send)	proto (first)	matri (mother)
sym (together)	centri (center)	phon (sound)	mega (large)
tri (three)	biblio (book)	mono (one)	pop (people)
un (not)	anthropo (man)	viv (life)	sangui (blood)

Helpful study ideas include:

- Making flash cards with the root, meaning, and examples
- Practicing roots with a family member or friend
- Creating word webs or vocabulary maps
- Playing matching or memory games.